

# THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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The News is the Official Paper of the Board of Public Instruction of DeSoto County, also Publishes All the County Commissioners Reports and Proceeding.

## MINUTES OF DE SOTO COUNTY PRESS ASSOCIATION

HELD AT ARCADIA, FLORIDA, NOVEMBER 27TH. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF WEEKLY PAPERS WILL NOT BE ADVANCED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE STATE PRESS ASSOCIATION, BUT WILL INSTEAD PUT THE BUSINESS ON A STRICTLY CASH BASIS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEY CAN LIVE DURING THE PRESENT HIGH PRICE OF PAPER IF THERE IS NO LOSS IN COLLECTIONS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The meeting was called to order by President A. P. Jordan, who stated the object of the meeting. He called attention to the recommendation of the State Association that weekly papers increase their subscription rates from \$1.50 to \$2 per year.

The question was discussed from various standpoints, and it was the sentiment of all present that something should be done to curtail the loss now sustained by most of the weeklies in charging \$1.50 per year at the prices which they are now forced to pay for news print paper.

It was suggested that if the weekly newspapers should adopt a strictly cash basis, so that they would receive the full amount of each subscription, instead of losing from 15 to 25 per cent. of their subscription accounts in bad debts, it would then be unnecessary to raise the price. The following resolution was read and adopted:

"Whereas, The extreme high price which we are forced to pay for news print paper renders it necessary for weekly news papers to either increase their present subscription rates, or else adopt a system to prevent any loss on subscription accounts, and,

"Whereas, We are opposed to the principle of allowing the 'dead beat' to force an increased price upon people who pay their just debts, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That from and after January 1st, 1917, we, the members of the DeSoto County Press Association, will mail no papers to subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions in advance.

"Resolved, That those who really want the paper and intend to pay for it, will welcome the opportunity to pay in advance, rather than stand a further increase in the subscription price, while those who might shirk the obligation will be weeded out, and both the newspaper and the prompt subscriber will profit thereby."

Attention was called to the fact that certain advertising agencies doing business with members of this association were not meeting their bills promptly, and the following resolutions respecting them were presented and adopted:

"Whereas, The DeSoto County Press Association has been contracting space with certain advertising agencies who have failed to pay their bills, some of them being delinquent several months,

"Resolved, That the secretary of this association be instructed to notify said advertising agencies that they must pay up all past due accounts with members of the association, and must meet their bills promptly when due in future.

"Resolved, That such delinquent agencies as shall fail to comply with these demands they be reported to the other associations of this state and to the trade journals, and that we run no further advertising matter for them until these demands are fully met.

There being no further business before the meeting, a motion to adjourn was made and carried.

A. P. JORDAN, President.  
ANDREW CARTER, Secretary.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE HON. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN

SESSION YESTERDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH. D. B. HAMPTON EMPLOYED AS DEPUTY LICENSE COLLECTOR AT A SALARY OF \$50.00 PER MONTH AND FEES. THE BOARD WILL MEET AGAIN TOMORROW.

The Honorable Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with Chairman L. W. Whitehurst presiding, and Commissioners W. G. Welles, D. L. Stippler, John Hagan and William M. Whitten present.

Minutes of the October meeting were read, corrected and approved.

County Enumerator R. J. Davis presented his report, which was accepted.

Moved, seconded and carried, that D. L. Worth, of Sebring, Carl Neuner, of Charlotte Harbor, and Mrs. M. A. Carey, of Wauchula, each be placed on the pauper list at \$5 per month.

Moved, seconded and carried that C. E. Rimes, of Arcadia, be allowed \$10 for temporary relief.

M. R. W. Aldritton, agent for C. L. Knight, having made affidavit that the said C. L. Knight owned only one horse, while being assessed for taxes on more than one, the tax collector was authorized to allow the payment of the personal tax of the said C. L. Knight at \$130, the assessed value being considered excessive.

Blazer's report of E. C. Thornhill, B. E. Woods and A. J. Rodgers was received, and the following route, described therein, was declared a public highway: Beginning at the Mack Bonds corner on the Zolfo and Crewsville public road, running north to the northwest corner of S. E. Roberts' place; then due east to the section line; then due north to the Renown Wingate and Zolfo public road, following the said road one-half mile due west; then running on half section line due north to E. C. Thornhill's residence; then following the E. C. Thornhill road to the Wauchula and Crewsville public road.

Commissioner Whitten presented a quit-claim deed from N. Holdridge and Lucinda Holdridge, his wife; D. N. McQueen and Amy McQueen, his wife, to the County of DeSoto, and conveying a strip of land twenty-six feet wide lying thirty feet north and thirteen feet south of section line dividing sections twenty and twenty-nine, between southwest half of southwest quarter of southwest quarter section 29, township 40, range 24 east.

By motion, second and carried, the

said deed was accepted and the clerk instructed to draw warrant on district road fund for \$170.00 in payment therefor.

A petition for a public road in commissioner's district No. 1, signed by W. E. Mitchell and twenty others, was presented, placed on file, and Alfred S. Badgley, O. M. Revell and Lee M. Hammel were appointed a committee to view and mark out said road and to make report according to law.

The hour having arrived, bids as advertised for, for certain concrete work in the court house and yard, for building a jail fence, and for eighteen barrels of bridge paint for special road and bridge district No. 5, were opened. The following firms and individuals submitted bids: William L. Smith, Florida National Vault Company, Thomas H. Brown, William W. James and G. P. Lamb, on the court house and yard work, and Tropical Paint and Oil Company, E. T. Smith Hardware-Furniture Company, and Ed. Campbell on the bridge paint. All bids were read in open session before the board, and further action deferred until the propositions of the bidders had been thoroughly investigated.

Moved, seconded and carried, that D. B. Hampton be employed for two months as deputy license collector, the remuneration thereof being \$50 a month and fees, and his duty being to go out over the county and collect unpaid license tax.

Moved by L. W. Whitehurst and seconded that the general road fund of the county be divided equally among the several road districts. The motion being announced the vote thereon stood two to one against, and Commissioner Hagan, who had been placed temporarily in the chair, declared the motion lost.

Commissioner Whitehurst then resumed the chair.

The following banks filed applications to be designated as County Depositories, effective January 1st: First National Bank, Arcadia; DeSoto National Bank, Arcadia; Carlton National Bank, Wauchula; Bank of Wauchula, Wauchula; and the Punta Gorda Bank, Punta Gorda.

The board then adjourned to meet again Wednesday, after the election.

## PEACE RIVER TRUCK GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF THIS CITY

MAKES FIRST SHIPMENT OF VEGETABLES FROM THEIR NEW PACKING HOUSE, LOCATED NEAR THE C. H. & N. RAILROAD. SHIPMENTS WILL BE MADE REGULARLY EACH DAY UNTIL THE CLOSE OF THE SEASON. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WILL BE ENTERTAINED TOMORROW NIGHT BY THE C. H. & N. ALL FARMERS INVITED.

The first shipment of vegetables by the Peace River Truck Growers' Association from their new packing house in this city went forward on Wednesday, November 1st, and another of like character followed yesterday.

The shipments consisted of cucumbers, peppers and squash, and were consigned to W. Y. and S. U. Davenport, of New York City.

It is expected that the association will make shipments regularly from now until the close of the season.

Tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock the members and friends of the association will be entertained at the packing house by the C. H. & N. Railroad, and a most interesting time is expected by all. All farmers, whether members of the association or not, are invited to be present.

### PUT SUNDAY TOGS ON SHOW ANIMALS.

An animal can not be fitted for show overnight, nor can it ever be expected to obtain a sleek coat and good finish on the open range. It takes work and care to put an animal in show condition, and at least six weeks or two months should be taken for the preparation.

A great many deserving animals are placed on exhibition with poor coats. A rough, shaggy coat works against the animal, and it may be the deciding factor in awarding the first prize. The curry comb and brush should be used daily, according to John M. Scott, animal industrialist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, and for best results it will be necessary to keep the animal blanketed.

It is not advisable to make animals over fat, but they should have a good finish of smooth, even flesh. Cattle and horses can receive a liberal quantity of cotton seed meal, peanut meal, or linseed meal. These feeds will put a gloss on their coats which could not be had in any other way. They will also make the skin soft and pliable.

Many stockmen let their animals run on the range even when they are feeding them for show. This is not advisable, since their coats can not be kept clean and free of burrs. The best method of placing them in condition is to keep them in the lot or on cultivated pasture and give them plenty of feed and care.

### KANSAS MIXTURE KILLS CUT WORMS.

Cut worms are likely to give trouble on sod land. The moths prefer to lay eggs on grass, and for this reason the larvae resulting from those eggs are always more numerous on land that has been occupied by grass. The worms do most of their feeding at night. The gardener usually sees the results of their work in the morning, when he finds his plants cut off near the ground.

According to J. R. Watson, entomologist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, the best method of eliminating cut worms is to poison them. The Kansas Mixture has proved effective. Directions for making this bait are as follows: Mix dry 1 pound of Paris green with 20 pounds of bran or cotton seed meal. Add two quarts of cheap syrup to two and a half gallons of water. Grate into this three or four whole lemons or six or eight whole oranges. Moisten the bran and Paris green mixture with this liquid. The mash should not be sloppy, but just moist enough to fall in flakes when it is scattered over the ground.

The bait should be broadcasted over the affected area about sundown, so that it will not dry before the worms come out. If the days are hot and dry the bait should be renewed every afternoon, but if they are cloudy the bait will last several days unless it is washed by rains.

If cut worms are suspected on freshly plowed land it would be well to poison them before the plants are set. Cabbage, cellards or radishes dipped in a strong solution of some arsenic compound will attract and kill the worms before they have a chance to eat the young plants.

If the plot of land is not large enough to justify the foregoing recommendations, the insects may be collected by hand. They will usually be found in the top inch or two of soil near the freshly cut plant.

**Daughters of the Confederacy.**  
The Daughters of the Confederacy will have a cake and candy sale Saturday afternoon. The place will be announced later.

The purpose of the sale is to get funds to put markers at the graves of the Confederate soldiers both in Arcadia and Joshua Creek cemeteries.

**Here On Business.**  
A. L. Redgeron, a traveling man from Tampa, is making his weekly visit to Arcadia today.

## THE NEW GASKINS MILLING COMPANY

Of This City Prepared to Meet Every Need of the Farmers Of This County. One of the Best Equipped Mills Of Its Kind in the State. Will Doubtless Greatly Increase the Interest in Growing Certain Crops.

There are many people in DeSoto county who do not yet know that there is located in Arcadia one of the most complete mills to be found in any part of the state, known as the Gaskins Mill Company. Thomas Gaskins, Jr., manager, and Morgan Ingram, foreman.

This mill is housed in one of the most substantial wooden buildings to be found in South Florida, not excepting the famous Exchange Packing house of this city, which is regarded as one of the best built wooden houses in the state. The Gaskins building is 75 feet long and 35 feet wide, while it is iron clad both sides and roof. In it is a large lot of suitable capacity for storing grain, which is built absolutely air tight, and will thoroughly protect the grain from weevil or other pests.

Mr. Gaskins has a rice huller and polisher of the most improved and up to date pattern, a meal and grits mill, a feed mill, that will grind anything in the way of corn in the husk, oats, velvet beans in the pod and shelled, a huller for cow peas and velvet beans, a corn sheller and a fan for cleaning the rice and other grains, a grader, for grading grits, rice and meal, a feed mixer for mixing chicken and stock feed.

The mill has a capacity for grinding 700 bushels of feed in one day of ten hours, for grinding 100 bushels of meal or grits in the same period of time, for grinding 200 bushels of feed meal, for hulling and polishing 125 bushels of rice, for shelling 600 bushels of corn.

Mr. Gaskins was asked the question as to why he made such an elaborate investment in this new venture, and his reply was that the community has need of just such a plant. Mr. Gaskins said that when he erected the building in September he had very little thought of being able to get interest on the amount of his investment within a period of three years' time, but the erection of the mill has given such encouragement to the farmers of this section that there will be, in the opinion of Mr. Gaskins, an increased acreage of at least 500 per cent., due to the fact that the farmers will have a mill that will take care of these products.

So strong is Mr. Gaskins' belief in this statement that he has already ordered 500 bushels of corn for planting purposes, which is more seed corn than he has ordered altogether before since he began the seed business.

At present Mr. Gaskins is receiving his supply of corn from Ocala, Flora Home, Monticello, Anthony and other sections in Florida. He hopes, however, by another year that this county will furnish him an ample supply of corn and that his mill will be able to run regularly on DeSoto county products.

Mr. Gaskins is to be congratulated for what he has done as an encouragement towards the development of such products as those named above, and for which the soil is so admirably adapted. Probably no one thing could be done that would give these crops, and Arcadia owes Mr. Gaskins a vote of thanks for his enterprising spirit.

## "STEEL MULE" ARRIVES AND WILL BE PROMPTLY PUT TO WORK PLOWING

2,200 ACRES OF LAND OWNED BY THE DESOTO FRUIT AND CATTLE COMPANY. THIS HUSTLING COMPANY WILL PLANT 4,000 CITRUS TREES THE COMING SEASON.

The DeSoto Fruit and Cattle Company has just received a 40 horse power Bates steel mule. This piece of machinery was built by the Joliet Oil Tractor Company, of Joliet, Illinois.

The machine is the four-cylinder caterpillar tread type. The plow or working implement is hitched to the back of the machine, exactly as it would be with a mule.

Kerosene will be used in the machine, thereby reducing the cost of

running expense. The machine left this morning for the prairie, where they will begin work on 2,200 acres, which will be under cultivation in a reasonable time.

Mr. A. Landnasser is superintendent for this company, which is one of the largest and most progressive to be found in the state. The company will set 4,000 citrus trees this winter, which fact speaks for itself as to a belief in the future of this business.

## CUCUMBERS BRING FANCY PRICES. \$5.00 PER HAMPER

In New York City Being Paid for the First Shipment Made Through the Peace River Truck Growers' Association of This City. This Nets the Grower \$3.20 Per Hamper.

Returns have been made of the first shipment of cucumbers made by the Peace River Truck Growers' Association, and this popular vegetable brought \$5.00 per hamper in the New York market, thus netting the grower \$3.20 per hamper.

The market usually holds up at this season of the year, and very frequently gets better. The weather just now is not very favorable to the growth of vines, on account of the dry and windy weather, yet notwithstanding this fact a few of the truckers who planted early are making daily shipments.

**St. Edmund's Guild.**  
St. Edmund's Guild met with Mrs. S. Rosin Monday, November 7th, with twenty members in attendance. A busy and profitable afternoon was spent. Rev. Shore read an interesting article by Ralph Connor, showing a tendency toward church unity. The treasurer's report gave the result of the food sale to be \$23.50. A rising vote of thanks was given Mr. Newsome for the use of his store for this sale.

The hostess served delicious refreshments of pulled chicken and San Francisco salad. The next meeting will be with Mrs. J. H. Johnson, Tuesday, Nov. 14th.

### LIVE STOCK INSTITUTE WILL OCCUPY FOUR DAYS.

The live stock institute which will be held at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in January, has been extended one day. It was formerly scheduled for three days, but owing to the greater interest stockmen have shown, it will cover four days, January 16 to 19 inclusive.

John M. Scott, animal industrialist to the experiment station, will have charge of the program. He will have a tentative plan of the meeting ready within the next few weeks. The eradication is one of the most important and interesting subjects before live stock raisers at present, and it will receive considerable attention during the institute.

Foreign crops will be another important topic for discussion. It is well known that better feeds will be supplied when ticks have been driven out. Better animals will be raised, and stockmen realize that it will be to their interest to provide better grades of feed.

Other topics of timely interest will be discussed. Some of the best live stock men of the state and nation will attend the meeting and give lectures. These men will be in position to give valuable suggestions, and no stockman can afford to miss the meeting, since in no other way will he be able to obtain or command such information.

### Visit In Fort Myers.

Mrs. Ira J. Johnston and two little sons left this morning for Fort Myers, where she will spend a few days visiting friends before returning to her home in this city.

### Weekly Visit.

Ben Brown, a popular traveling man for the Consolidated Grocery Company, of Tampa, arrived here this morning from Zolfo, where he has been spending several hours transacting business. He will leave Arcadia tonight for points north.

## JUDGE WHITNEY ISSUES WRIT OF ALTERNATIVE MANDAMUS IN

THE FAMOUS BOND ISSUE QUESTION THAT HAS BEEN OCCUPYING THE ATTENTION OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS VICINITY FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS. MANDAMUS SUIT FILED AGAINST THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BY THE BOND COMMITTEE HAD A HEARING BEFORE JUDGE WHITNEY THIS MORNING. THE BOND PEOPLE BEING REPRESENTED BY ATTORNEY E. D. TREADWELL, AND THE COMMISSIONERS BY ATTORNEY J. W. BURTON.

Judge F. A. Whitney this morning issued an alternative writ in the case of the mandamus suit filed by the bond committee against the DeSoto County Commissioners, returnable November tenth, requiring that this body show why an election should not be called upon the petition filed before this body in September, asking that a bond election for good roads be called in part of district No. 2, and all of district No. 4, Arcadia, except a few townships in the extreme eastern part.

Mr. E. D. Treadwell, of the firm of Treadwell & Treadwell, represented the bond committee, and Col. J. W. Burton represented the commission-

ers. Mr. Treadwell contended that the calling of an election upon the part of the commissioners is mandatory, while Colonel Burton contended that it is optional, at least in part. Colonel Burton further contends that the petition has defects, one of them being that the petition had been withdrawn by some of the signers, and was not therefore legally before the commissioners at its October meeting.

It is expected that the matter will be speedily determined, and if the petition is found defective, those who favor a bond issue will at once proceed to get up another petition.

## FIVE CAR LOADS OF GREEN FRUIT HAVE BEEN DETAINED

On East Coast. Two Of Cars Were In St. Lucie County, Two In Dade County and One In Brevard. More Green Fruit Than Usual, Owing to the June Bloom.

Miami, Fla., Nov. 7.—Five cars of grape fruit have been seized on the east coast this season as immature fruit, according to H. H. Elliot, state inspector of this district. Two of the cars were in St. Lucie county, two in Dade county and one in Brevard county. One of the Dade county cars was loaded at Coconut Grove, and the other at Homestead. There is much more green fruit than usual on account of the large amount of June bloom. Practically none of the June bloom fruit is ready for shipment.

### THE WEATHER

Monday, November 6th:  
Maximum temperature . . . . .81  
Minimum temperature . . . . .62  
Set . . . . .79  
Tuesday, November 7th:  
Maximum temperature . . . . .82  
Minimum temperature . . . . .61  
Set . . . . .78

**Transacting Business.**  
John Mays is among the Tampa traveling men who are taking orders in the city today. Mr. Mays will leave tonight for points south of here.

**Fine Baby Boy.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bird are the proud possessors of a fine baby boy, which was born last night. Both mother and baby are doing well. Their friends extend congratulations.

**From Atlanta.**  
J. E. McRae, of Atlanta, is a business visitor to the city today. Mr. McRae is a guest at the Arcadia House.